



TOWN OF VIENNA NEWSLETTER

March 2005

Talk with Your Congressman

U.S. Representative Thomas M. Davis III will host a town meeting on Saturday, March 5, from 8:30 to 11 a.m. in the Council Chamber at Town Hall. Citizens are invited to discuss the current Congressional session as well as issues affecting them at home in the 11th District.

Business License Deadline March 1

Town businesses are reminded that March 1 is the deadline for payment of the annual business, professional and occupational license (BPOL) tax. All businesses in the Town of Vienna, including home occupations, must renew their business licenses by March 1.

The amount of the tax is based on gross receipts, and the rate varies according to the type of business. The gross receipts threshold is \$50,000, below which the tax does not apply. Those businesses with total annual gross receipts of \$50,000 or less pay only the minimum license fee of \$30 per year.

License tax forms are available in the Finance Department at Town Hall and online at www.ci.vienna.va.us. For more information or assistance in figuring license taxes, call 703-255-6321.

*SEE PAGE 5 FOR THE SPRING
STREET-SWEEPING SCHEDULE.*

Vehicle Decals Available March 15

2005 Town of Vienna motor vehicle decals go on sale Tuesday, March 15, and must be displayed by midnight April 15. Decals may be purchased by mail or in person in the Finance Department at Town Hall. (Military personnel must apply in person.)

Decals cost \$20 for passenger cars and trucks under 4,000 pounds, \$25 for cars and trucks 4,000 pounds and over, and \$10.50 for motorcycles.

To reduce expenses and speed up the application process, each renewal application will be mailed individually this year rather than manually combining forms for owners of more than one vehicle into a single envelope as has been done in the past.

Information for pre-printed application forms for 2005 decals was taken from 2004 records; therefore, if your vehicle was not registered in Vienna last year, you will not automatically receive an application form in the mail. Call 703-255-6323 or visit the Finance Department to obtain a form, or download it from the Town's Web site, www.ci.vienna.va.us.

Town of Vienna residents do not need to purchase Fairfax County vehicle decals, but they must pay County personal property tax on motor vehicles.

Tax Relief Offered to Senior, Disabled Low-income Homeowners

Both the Town of Vienna and Fairfax County offer real estate tax relief for low-income homeowners who are 65 years old and over, or permanently and totally disabled. To qualify, the following requirements must be met:

- Total household income of \$52,000 or less. This amount excludes \$6,500 of income of relatives, other than the spouse, who reside in the household. Also excluded is \$7,500 of any income received by a disabled homeowner. 100% tax relief is given for total combined income of \$40,000 or less, 50% tax relief between \$40,001 and \$46,000, and 25% tax relief between \$46,001 and \$52,000.
- Total combined assets of no more than \$190,000. This amount excludes the value of the residence, up to one acre of land, and household furnishings.
- Disabled persons applying for the first time must show evidence of disability.

In addition to real estate tax relief, Fairfax County provides rental grants and relief from personal property tax for one automobile per household. The Town of Vienna provides all relief recipients one free auto decal.

Applications for 2005 for all programs are due April 1. This date may be extended to December 31 of next year for first-time filers or if hardship conditions exist which, through no fault of the applicant, prohibit applying by April 1.

For more information and to obtain Town application forms, call 703-255-6325. For County applications, call 703-222-8234.

TOWN COUNCIL ACTION

All votes are unanimous unless noted otherwise.

DECEMBER 20, 2004

- Approved AAC as the vendor to implement a wide area network among Town facilities, funded with cable TV franchise fees, at a cost not to exceed \$202,532.40. (*Approved 6-1, Polychrones voting nay.*)

- Approved the purchase of personal protective equipment for Town police officers from Global Protection at a cost of \$20,428.51, funding to come from a State Homeland Security Grant.

- Accepted a Local Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Grant in the amount of \$45,000 for the Police Department's CAD/RMS (computer aided dispatch/records management system) project.

- Approved a contract with Double H Locates of Marshall, VA, for underground utility marking at an estimated cost of \$59,972.

- Approved funds in an estimated amount of \$65,000 for noise attenuation

and odor control materials associated with the Beulah Road mulch yard in compliance with the temporary conditional use permit for the site.

- Adopted a resolution establishing a project to improve the Town's traffic signal system, funding to come from the Virginia Department of Transportation's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program.

- Awarded a contract for private landfill usage to Lorton Landfill at a total estimated cost not to exceed \$100,000 for the base year of the contract.

- Accepted an easement to connect water and sewer lines at Ridge Lane in Fairfax County to the Town's water supply.

JANUARY 3, 2005

- Conducted a public hearing on proposed amendments to the zoning code concerning trailers and manufactured

homes related to schools, government and public safety uses.

- Approved the final plat for the re-subdivision of the property at 612 and 616 Center St., S. (*Approved 5-2, Cole and Verinder voting nay.*) Waived the installation of curb, gutter and sidewalk, with funds to be placed in escrow for public improvements.

- Adopted a resolution proclaiming January as National Mentoring Month.

JANUARY 10, 2005

- Conducted a closed session to discuss Town employee job reclassifications and appointments to Town boards and commissions.

JANUARY 24, 2005

- Approved the final plat for the re-subdivision of the property at 1001 Cottage St., S.W.

- Awarded a bid for the capital lease financing of replacement vehicles to Freedom Bank of Virginia.

- Adopted amendments to the zoning code concerning trailers and manufactured homes related to schools, government and public safety uses.

TOWN OF VIENNA NEWSLETTER

Vol. CXV, No. 3 Vienna, Virginia March 2005

VIENNA TOWN COUNCIL

M. Jane Seeman, Mayor

Laurie Genevro Cole

Edythe Frankel Kelleher

George E. Lovelace

Michael J. Polychrones

Maud F. Robinson

Sydney H. Verinder

TOWN STAFF

Town Manager

Director of Public Works

Chief of Police

Director of Finance

Director of Parks & Recreation

Director of Planning & Zoning

Town Attorney

John H. Schoeberlein

Dennis W. King

Col. Robert A. Carlisle

Philip R. Grant

Catherine L. Salgado

Gregory M. Hembree

Steven D. Briglia

703-255-6371

703-255-6381

703-255-6390

703-255-6320

703-255-6356

703-255-6341

703-255-6305

Send news and comments to *Vienna Newsletter* c/o Town Hall.

FAX 703-255-5722

e-mail pio@ci.vienna.va.us

More Holiday Tree Ornament Winners

The list of those recognized by the Town of Vienna for their ornament designs to decorate the National Capitol Holiday Tree, published in the January newsletter, inadvertently omitted one group. Congratulations to the members of Girl Scout Troop 1060, who received an award for their colorful Virginia cardinal ornaments.

The Capitol Holiday Tree made its last stop in Vienna November 28 on the way to the front lawn of the U.S. Capitol.

Citizen Comment

Fence Line May Not Equal Lot Line

A 30-year town resident writes from southwest Vienna: “With all of the redevelopment of Vienna going on, it might be a good idea to let current homeowners/residents know that a fence line may not necessarily be their lot line.

“When the lot next door to ours was sold to a developer, the surveyor told us he had found the corner stakes for the lot lines. He did not dig them out nor did he stake the property line. In fact, he told me that the fence line *was* the property line. This was not the case. While the drawings submitted to the Town were correct, the *visual illusion* of the fence line as the property line for prospective buyers would not have been correct and could have led to many problems down the road.

“We hired an independent local surveyor at our own expense to come out and survey our property correctly. He staked our lot line and we are thankful we had this done. However, we felt compelled to remove our side fencing, to eliminate the visual illusion, at a time when we had not planned to do so just to protect our property rights and clarify the lines.

“My feeling is that surveyors should always dig down and expose the existing corner stakes and then properly stake the lot line so that homeowners living next door to redeveloping properties don’t have to incur that expense to protect their rights and property. While we live in a very affluent town and county, we must always recognize that many people do not have extra resources to incur unneeded expenses. The Town powers that be still need to recognize this and require that a developer’s surveyor properly identify the corner stakes and draw the lot line in an obvious manner.

“In addition, existing homeowners need to be informed well in advance of zoning approvals, that they have a right to question what possible changes might be made to land elevations/drainage problems, etc., when a developer comes in. What I have seen in my neighborhood is that the developer has not put up a sign of any kind, so neighboring property owners might not know who is building in their neighborhood and what changes are really forthcoming that might affect their properties.

“I do have to point out the Planning and Zoning Department staff have been a wonderful help to my husband and me. I just think that if we publish more of this information in the newsletter, we can relieve them of some of the frustrating calls they must receive (mine included).”

From the Department of Planning and Zoning: ANY type of permit application requires an accurate property survey in accordance with §18-220 of the Town Code. We also advise prospective buyers, when they ask, to be sure and obtain a copy of their survey as they will pay for it as part of their closing costs.

As to notification procedures, for ALL development applications before the Planning Commission, a letter is sent to all adjoining and abutting property owners one week prior to the meeting advising them of the existence of the application and the place, date and time of its consideration.

In addition, all agendas for the Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Windover Heights Board of Review along with other Town boards and commissions and the Town Council are posted on line at www.ci.vienna.va.us, generally at least one week before the meeting date.

Citizens are invited to submit comments for use in the Town of Vienna Newsletter. Comments must be made in writing or via e-mail (pio@ci.vienna.va.us) and received by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month’s newsletter. Your name, address and daytime phone number are required. This information will not be published.

Are You Registered For Town Election?

Monday, April 4, is the last day to register to vote in the May 3 Town election. You are eligible to register if you are a Vienna resident, at least 18 years old by election day, and a U.S. citizen.

You may register in person in the Fairfax County General Registrar’s Office. Mail-in application forms are available at Town Hall, all public libraries and other locations around the county, and can also be downloaded from the County Web site, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/goveb/vregis.htm.

If you are already a registered voter, no additional registration is required for the Town election; however, you should check your voter registration card to be sure it lists your current name and address.

This year, Vienna voters will elect three Town Council members for two-year terms beginning July 1.

LOOK FOR TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATE PROFILES IN THE APRIL NEWSLETTER.

Summer Parks Jobs Available

The Town of Vienna has a number of openings in the Parks and Recreation Department for temporary summer workers beginning in May. Hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The salary is \$9 per hour.

The Summer Landscaper position assists the Town’s horticulturist with watering and landscaping tasks. The Seasonal Laborer position (four available) assists Town crews in maintaining ballfields, mowing grass and cleaning parks.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, be able to perform manual labor and have a valid driver’s license. **THOSE HIRED WILL BE EXPECTED TO WORK FOR AT LEAST SIX WEEKS.**

For more information, contact the Administrative Services Office at Town Hall, 703-255-6350, e-mail jobs@ci.vienna.va.us or visit www.ci.vienna.va.us. No closing date; positions open until filled.

Water Mains Flushed in Spring

Each spring the Town of Vienna flushes the water mains in its distribution system in order to maintain a high standard of water quality and to ensure proper and efficient operation of the fire hydrants. The preventive maintenance program begins in early April, and flushing usually occurs between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.

Water mains are flushed by opening the fire hydrants and allowing the water to flow freely for a short period of time. The flushing cleans out sediment that normally accumulates during the summer and winter, and enables the Town to test and perform routine maintenance on the 800+ fire hydrants within its service area.

Flushing may result in some discoloration and the presence of sediment in the water reaching your home or business. These conditions are not harmful and should be of short duration. The Town appreciates your tolerance of this inconvenience. If you need more information, please call the Water and Sewer Customer Service Office at 703-255-6385.



"Beauty Spot" Awards

Vienna's Community Enhancement Commission recognizes town residents and businesses for their beautification projects. The latest "Beauty Spot" awards, for holiday decorations, go to:

- * Thomas and Linda Stevens, 316 Windover Ave., N.W.
- * Brenda Craft, 401 Meadow Lane, S.W.
- * James Lee, 606 Center St., S. (for Village Green Shopping Center)
- * William and Tomma Bersie, 413 Courthouse Rd., S.W.
- * Chris Brunjes, 708 Glyndon St., S.E.
- * Vienna Jewelry, 320 Maple Ave., E.
- * Peter and Kathleen Bridgemen, 436 Park St., N.E.

Citizen suggestions for Beauty Spot awards are welcomed. Send them in care of the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna, VA 22180.

Welcome New Businesses

The following business licenses were issued in January:

Energypri
energy consultant
1015 Westwood Dr., N.E.
703-938-6552

Francoise Hatfield
massage therapy
320 Maple Ave., E. #B
703-786-9101

Fort Meyer TV
electronics repairs/sales
525 Maple Ave., W.
703-255-2530

Rudy's Friends
dog training
521 Walker St., S.W.
703-395-9450

Auction House Online
Internet service
394 Maple Ave., E.
703-242-1451

Maryam Zamani, MD
ophthalmologist
124 Park St., S.E. #203
703-281-5885

Las Perlitas
Mexican restaurant
147 Maple Ave., W.
703-319-8500

Among last month's new businesses was Carol Finney, 310 Locust St., S.E., #D, 703-319-4224. The business was described as *alterations*. It also includes *dressmaking*.

Berco International
Internet service
306 Tapawingo Rd., S.W.
703-281-7008

Premier Metro Realty
real estate brokerage
133 Maple Ave., E. #306
703-242-2212

Azarias Fashions
clothing sales
165 Maple Ave., E.
703-723-2571

Convenient Location & Friendly Service
SHOP IN VIENNA
Support Our Hometown Merchants

Congratulations to the following businesses, both commercial and home occupations, celebrating milestone anniversaries in March: *20 years* – Le Canard; *10 years* – Kathleen Skilton, Ph.D., KCW Consulting, Ocean Cleaners, Physiotherapy Associates, Roberta A. Cordingley, LPC, Smith Investment Group, Staats Developers.

Recycle Motor Oil, Antifreeze, Batteries

The next quarterly recycling day for used motor oil, antifreeze and car batteries is Saturday, March 5, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Northside Property Yard, 600 Mill St., N.E. This service of the Public Works Department provides citizens a convenient and environmentally responsible way to dispose of vehicle waste products. For more information, call 703-255-6381.

Too often, used oil is improperly poured down storm drains or into sewers. Just one quart of oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water, releasing toxic metals such as lead, cadmium and arsenic into the environment. Recycled oil is a valuable resource that can be re-manufactured into new fuels.

Antifreeze, like oil, can contaminate water and should never be disposed of in drains or sewers. In addition, antifreeze stored around the house presents a great danger to children and pets; it tastes sweet but is deadly poison.

Improper disposal of automobile batteries is a leading cause of lead contamination in landfills and energy recovery facilities. In Virginia it is illegal to dispose of automobile batteries with refuse.

NEW IN TOWN? Vienna's Public Information Office has a welcome packet especially for new residents. Stop by Town Hall and pick one up or call 703-255-6330 to have one mailed to you.

Spring Street Sweeping Schedule

The Public Works Department's spring street sweeping program begins this month. The town has been divided into eight sections to be covered according to the schedule below. Residents are requested not to park on the street during the scheduled time for their section to allow the street sweeper to do a thorough job. As the time for each section approaches, signs will be placed on streets as a reminder, and residents can also call the Public Works Department at 703-255-6381 to obtain a more definitive date of when the street sweeper will be on their block.

SECTION I MARCH 28–APRIL 1

West of Lawyers Rd. to town limit &
north of Maple Ave. to town limit

SECTION II APRIL 4–8

East of Lawyers Rd. to Beulah Rd. &
north of Maple Ave. to town limit

SECTION III APRIL 11–15

East of Beulah Rd. to eastern town limit &
north of Maple Ave. to northern town limit

SECTION IV APRIL 18–22

East of Glyndon St. & east of W&OD Trail
to western town line & south of Maple Ave.

SECTION V APRIL 25–29

East of Center St. & east of Lullaby Ln.
to Glyndon St. & W&OD Trail &
south of Maple Ave. to southern town limit

SECTION VI MAY 2–6

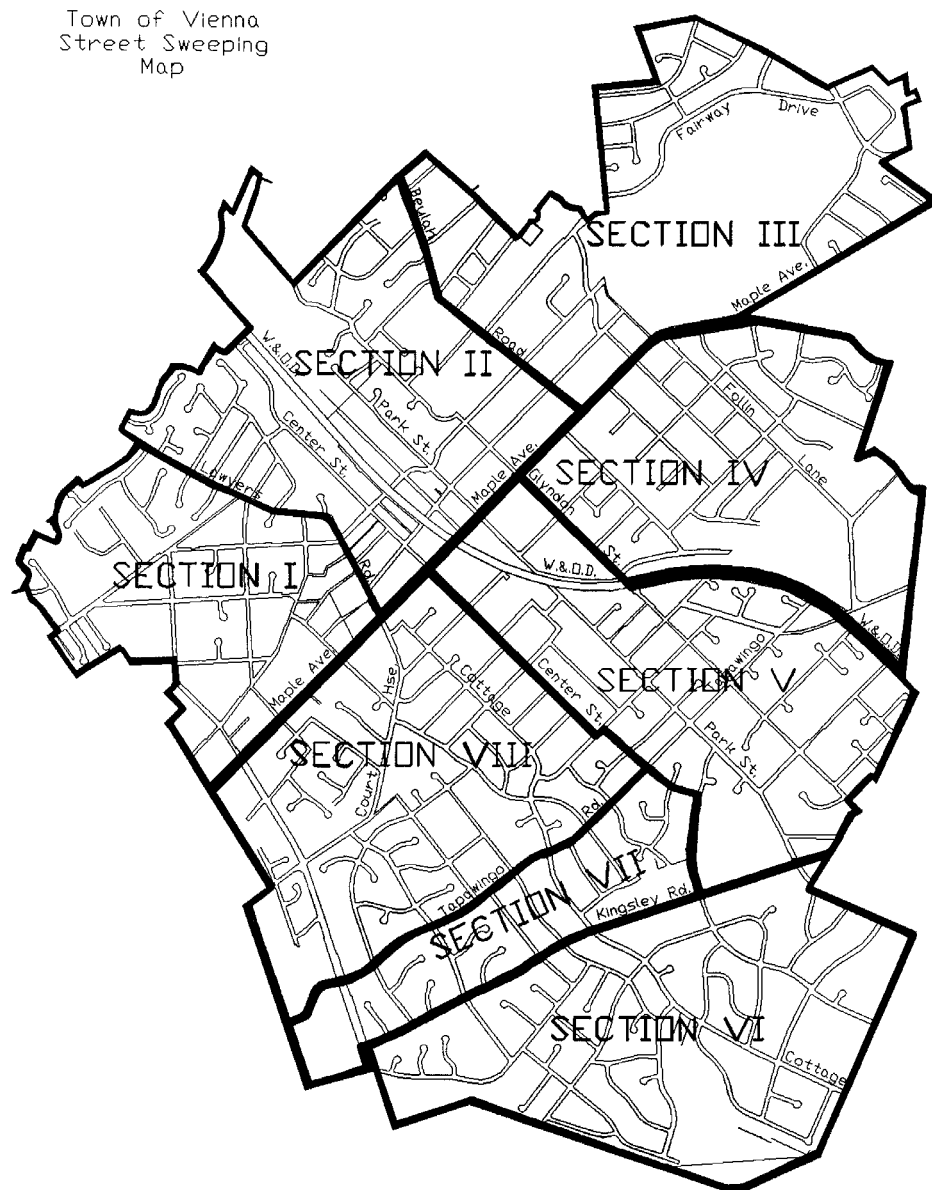
South of Kingsley Rd. to Cedar Ln.
& southern town limit

SECTION VII MAY 9–13

North of Kingsley Rd., west of Lullaby Ln.,
south of Tapawingo Rd. & east of town limit

SECTION VIII MAY 16–20

North of Tapawingo Rd., west of Center St.,
south of Maple Ave. & east of town limit



NEWS FROM VIENNA PARKS & REC

*For more information about any of the activities listed below, call the Vienna Parks and Recreation Department at 703-255-6360.
All activities are held at the Vienna Community Center unless stated otherwise.*

SPECIAL EVENT

Amateur photography contest and exhibit Saturday, March 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, March 20, from noon to 4 p.m. Entries will be accepted Thursday, March 17, from 5 to 9 p.m. and Friday, March 18, from noon to 4 p.m. Ribbons will be awarded in eight categories in black & white and color divisions. There will be a separate contest section for students in grades 7-12. The entry fee is \$7 per person. Entries are limited to five photos per person and two per category. Thanks to the Vienna Photographic Society for its assistance with this event.

BUS TRIPS

Philadelphia Flower Show, the largest floral show in the world, this year celebrates "America the Beautiful," with ten acres of gardens plus lectures, demonstrations and gardening products. A charter bus will leave the Community Center at 8 a.m. Thursday, March 10, and return around 7 p.m. The cost of \$54 for town residents includes transportation and admission to the show with all-day re-entry privileges.

American Visionary Art Museum, located near Baltimore's Inner Harbor, presents an exhibit entitled "Holy H₂O – Fluid Universe." Leave the Community Center at 9 a.m. Wednesday, March 16, and return at 4 p.m. The cost of \$40 for town residents includes transportation, admission to the museum and lunch.

HEALTH & FITNESS

Adult spring coed softball league begins April 24. Games will be played on Sundays at Southside Park beginning at 10 a.m. The registration fee of \$400 per team includes 10 regular season double-header games, a post-season tournament, umpire fees, softballs and awards. Registrations accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For league information packages, contact Keith Fees at 703-255-6352 or e-mail fees@ci.vienna.va.us.

Adult spring tennis league begins April 3. Men's singles games will be played on Saturdays and women's singles games on Sundays at Meadow Lane and Glyndon Parks. Each league member will play a minimum of seven matches during the season. The fee is \$10 for town residents. Registration deadline March 25.

Dynamic Walking at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens March 23, 30 and April 6 from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. Enjoy the beauty of the gardens as you learn dynamic walking techniques and dynamic body exercises plus how to use a pedometer to clock your steps. The cost for town residents is \$15 for all three sessions.

Weekly lunchtime Weight Watchers program, hosted by the Town of Vienna, meets at 11:30 a.m. each Thursday at the Vienna Community Center. Open to the public, the cost is \$150 for each 12-week series, payable in advance. To register and for more information, e-mail the group leader, Katherine, at ww_4u@yahoo.com.

AT THE TEEN CENTER

Saying What You Mean and Meaning What You Say, a seminar on effective communication for ages 14-18, will be presented on Tuesday, March 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. Pinpoint the snags in your communication style and discover alternative ways of interacting with peers and parents. The cost is \$5 for each participant.

Spring break 3 on 3 basketball tournament for grades 6, 7 and 8 will be held on Thursday, March 24, from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. Teams can be all boy, all girl or coed. The fee of \$10 per team includes beverages and prizes for the tournament winners. Can't find a team? Call Keith Fees at 703-255-6352.

Luck o' the Irish contests for 6th graders will be held on Friday, March 18, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Free admission. Try your luck in the pie-eating contest and other fun games.

Concert night for high school students featuring live bands is scheduled for Saturday, March 5, from 7 to 11 p.m. Admission \$5. Students interested in booking a concert at Club Phoenix should call Brandy Mullen at 703-255-5721.

Babysitting fundamentals, for boys and girls age 12 and older, will be offered on Saturday, March 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn how to care for infants and young children, including bathing, games/activities, basic first aid, diapering and safety practices. The fee of \$30 per person includes a manual and certificate upon completion. Bring a bag lunch and a doll.

After-school program for grades 6-8 is held throughout the school year, Monday through Thursday from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m., and includes homework time, arts and crafts, snacks, field trips and more. Free of charge.

MANAGING YOUR MONEY & YOUR ESTATE

The 5-step Estate Plan will be presented on Monday, March 14, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Attorney David Hoffman will discuss wills, trusts, taxes and probate in easy-to-understand terms. Free of charge; no advance registration required.

JUST FOR KIDS

Family skate nights will be held each Friday, March 4-April 22, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. (No skating April 15.) Admission is \$1 per child (17 and under) and 50¢ for skating adults. Bring your own skates or rollerblades and safety equipment. Parents are required to stay with their children.

"Impress Me" art camp for ages 5-8 will be held March 21-25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each day will feature a different art style, including impressionism, pastel landscapes, watercolor, pointillism and collage. Stories and play time are also planned. The fee for town residents is \$50 plus a \$4 materials fee.

Summer camp registration begins March 7 for town residents. Camps include tennis, basketball, fencing, horseback riding and golf plus history camp at the Freeman House, teen excursion camps and the summer playground program. Consult the summer camp brochure for information on dates and fees.

POTPOURRI

AARP driver safety program, for motorists age 50 and older, will be held March 11 and 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The course covers the effects of aging and medications on driving, basic driving rules, license renewal, local traffic hazards, adverse road conditions and accident prevention measures. Graduates of the course could receive a discount on their car insurance. The fee is \$10 per person and both classes must be attended. Advance registration required.

Salsa Rueda dance workshop for ages 12 and up will be held from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 19. Salsa Rueda is a group form of Salsa dancing with no partner needed. The cost is \$18 for town residents.

Travels Far and Near, a monthly travelogue program, will feature "A Panorama of India" on Monday, March 28, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ranjana Chawla will present the history, culture, art, architecture and religion of the country through photos and relics. Free of charge, but registration required.

Reservations for the picnic shelters at Meadow Lane and Glyndon Parks for groups of up to 75 people may be made beginning March 1. The fee for Town of Vienna groups is \$25 for a maximum of five hours plus a \$25 key deposit for use of the restrooms. Reservations may be made by phone or in person at the Community Center Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Other parks in the area are also available for group functions. For information, call the Fairfax County Park Authority, 703-246-5700, and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, 703-352-5900.

Help keep our parks and playgrounds clean and safe. Report any damage or unsafe conditions to 703-255-6360.

FAMILY FLASHLIGHT EGG HUNT

Thursday, March 24 OR Friday, March 25
7:30 p.m. at Glyndon Park



Tickets will be sold
at the Vienna Community Center
Saturday, March 19, 8-10 a.m.

\$3 per family member
Maximum six tickets per family

TOWN RESIDENTS ONLY

The Right Way to Mulch

*Thanks to a northeast Vienna resident for supplying the following information.
To learn more, visit www.tlcfortrees.info/mulching_staking.htm.*

Mulch is good for trees for a variety of reasons: It looks good in the landscape and can help provide unity among different planting beds. It can suppress weed growth. It helps to conserve soil moisture and keep the roots cool in the summer, and it can modify temperature extremes during winter freezes. It can prevent soil erosion around roots on slopes.

But mulch can cause problems if it is applied improperly. The biggest problem is "mulch volcanoes," those mounds of mulch that are two or three feet deep and piled up onto the trunks of trees. If you pile mulch onto the bark, it will be exposed to dark and moisture. As the bark continues to be in the moisture, it will begin to rot. Rotted bark cannot protect the tree from diseases, and in fact, diseases grow better in the dark moisture of the mulch. So now the tree is more likely to get diseases.

Some trees have shallow roots, especially maples. If mulch volcanoes are piled around the trunk, the roots will start to grow into it. These roots tend to stay in the mulch volcano and will then grow around the trunk in the mulch. As the root grows in diameter, it pushes against the trunk, which is also trying to grow bigger. These roots will eventually strangle the trunk. This type of root is called a "girdling root." The trunk will keep growing wider above and below the girdling root, and may actually encase the root.

While the root is constricting the stem growth, the tree will begin to suffer. Young, outer branches will begin to die back. Leaves may appear yellow and become smaller than in previous years because water, nutrients and foods cannot flow through the tree properly. Total growth will slow down. Trees must continue to grow to remain healthy, thus the tree's health will decline further. The tree may eventually become hazardous due to being very top heavy for the size of the trunk at the girdle.

Mulch volcanoes can cause all this damage as the tree is growing larger. Remove the mulch on and around the tree trunk. Keep mulch over the root zone instead. Here is the right way to mulch: Clear all the weeds and grass from the area you intend to cover to prevent them from growing up through the mulch. Cover the cleared area with two to four inches of mulch, away from the trunk or stems of the plant. Make a neat outer edge by leaving a small gap between the mulch and the surrounding lawn.

If you use wood chips, it is recommended that you lightly sprinkle the ground with granular fertilizer to prevent nitrogen deficiency. The bacteria that decay the wood chips need nitrogen. If you don't apply it, the soil reserves to the tree may become low.

HAPPENINGS AROUND OUR TOWN

Community pancake breakfast, hosted by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, will be held from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 2, at Faith Baptist Church, 301 Center St., S. The event will support VVFD's ongoing capital campaign to fund improvements to the fire station. The cost of \$5 for ages 10 and older, \$2 for ages 2-9 and free for children under 2 years old includes pancakes, sausage, juice, coffee, entertainment by Oh Susan-nah! and a silent auction.

Antiques appraisers Josephine Thrasher and Jim Johnson will be at the historic Freeman House, 131 Church St., N.E., on Saturday, March 12, from noon to 4 p.m. They will give a verbal appraisal of the approximate age and current value of any item for \$10 (\$7.50 for Historic Vienna, Inc. members). Appointments are required; call 703-938-5187. Proceeds benefit Historic Vienna, Inc.

Vienna Girls Softball League registration for the spring season will continue through March 13. Mail-in registration forms and information is available in the Vienna Community Center lobby and at www.vgsl.org. Girls are invited to play in the Tee-ball, Coach Pitch, 10U, 12U and Senior divisions. (Registration for Senior girls will remain open after March 13.)

The Capitol Steps comedy troupe will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 13, at James Madison High School. The event, sponsored by the school PTSA, is the major fundraiser for the 2005 all-night graduation celebration. Tickets are \$25 each and can be reserved by calling 703-255-3798 or by mailing in the ticket form found at www.fcps.edu/MadisonHS.

Casino Night Luau, sponsored by the Vienna-Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce, will be held at Westwood Country Club on Saturday, March 12, from 7 p.m. to midnight. Enjoy casino games, food samples from local eateries, live and silent auctions, and prize drawings. The ticket price of \$60 per person includes two drink tickets, "casino cash" for gaming and unlimited food tasting. For more information, call 703-281-1333 or visit www.vtrcc.org.

Old-fashioned egg roll for children age 12 and under and their parents will be held on the lawn of the historic Freeman House, 131 Church St., N.E., on Saturday, March 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit with the Easter Bunny and listen to a storyteller. Free of charge; no registration required. For more information, call Historic Vienna, Inc., at 703-938-5187.

Your old magazines and paperback books (no hard covers) are welcomed by detainees at the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center through the Literacy Project sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Fairfax County Chapter. Regular donors may leave boxed or bagged publications at the usual location on the third Tuesday of the month from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. *only*. (Be sure to remove mailing labels from magazines.) First-time donors may call 703-281-2498 for information.

A Visit to Historic Vienna, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 7, at Patrick Henry Library. Millie Monahan and Paul Snodgrass, members of the Board of Directors of Historic Vienna, Inc., the town's non-profit organization for historic preservation and restoration, will discuss Vienna's history and plans for the local celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. To register for this free program and for more information, call the library at 703-938-0405.

Vienna Woman's Club will hold its annual business meeting at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, at the Vienna Community Center. New members are invited to join the Woman's Club, which meets the third Wednesday of the month, September-May. Club projects include scholarship awards, annual Harvest Bazaar, Police Officer of the Year award, Wolftrap Sing-along and English Tea. For information, call Sylvia Davies at 703-938-1445.

Free income tax return preparation for middle- and low-income senior taxpayers is available at SunTrust Bank, 515 Maple Ave., E., through April 15. Hours are Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturday from 9 to 11 a.m. This program is sponsored by AARP and the IRS.

AARP membership is not required to participate. For more information, call 1-888-227-7669 or visit www.aarp.org.

Newcomers Club of Vienna and Friends will hold their regular luncheon meeting at noon Thursday, March 10, at Marco Polo Restaurant. The program will feature Head Hogette Michael Torbert of the Washington Redskins Fan Club, a group of businessmen who raise money for local charities. The club also sponsors bridge groups, a book exchange, trips and tours, and a bowling league. For more information, call 703-938-4835 or 703-939-3505.

Northern Virginia Senior Softball seeks men age 50+ and women age 40+ for its spring/summer season. Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on Fairfax County fields. Players are assigned to teams according to their skill levels. Everyone bats! The \$70 fee includes a shirt and hat. For more information, call Dave, 703-524-5576, or Joyce, 703-860-1876, or visit www.nvss.org.

VIP Vienna, a support group for visually impaired persons and their families, will meet at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 24, at Patrick Henry Library. Guest speaker will be low vision specialist Amy Warren, O.D. Free of charge; no registration required. For more information, call the Fairfax County Access Services Office at 703-324-8380.

Calling all Meekins Preschool Alumni! Meekins Preschool will mark its 40th anniversary with a celebration on Saturday, March 12. All former Meekins students are invited to be involved and/or to contribute pictures for the historical records. For information, e-mail Kim Eiseman at kimberly.eiseman@oracle.com or visit www.fbmeekins.org.

Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., N.W., will sponsor a judged exhibition of art by middle and high school students March 1-13. Awards will be presented at a reception from 2 to 5 p.m. March 13, which is open to the public. Artwork by Nairobi street children will be exhibited through March 30, with proceeds from

sales returning to Kenya for education projects. Center hours are 10 a.m. -4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For more information, call 703-913-3971.

Vienna Little League opening day ceremonies will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, April 9, at Yeonas Park, followed by the Challengers first game of the season on Nance Field and other games throughout the day. Concessions will be open. Facilities are handicap accessible. For up-to-date information, call 703-573-3339 or visit www.vll.org.

Northern Virginia Model Railroaders will hold an open house at the Vienna Railroad Station, corner of Dominion Road and Ayr Hill Avenue, N.E., on Saturday, March 12, from 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free; donations accepted. See an operating HO scale model railroad. For information, call 703-938-5157 or visit www.nvmr.org.

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 227, will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at Neighbor's Restaurant in the Cedar Lane Shopping Center. A returning Iraq War veteran will speak on his recent tour of duty. For more information, call Len Ignatowski at 703-255-0353 or visit www.geocities.com/vva227.

Welcome Club of Northern Virginia invites newcomers and other interested residents to its monthly luncheon beginning at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 3, at Maggiano's Italian Restaurant in Tysons Corner. Melissa Sorensen will discuss effective time management. For reservations and more information, call 703-934-0984 or 703-321-9123. Club activities include bridge, book discussions, golf, theater group and more.

Vienna Relay for Life meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 29, in the Madison High School cafeteria. The Relay for Life is scheduled for June 18-19 as part of a national event sponsored by the American Cancer Society. For more information, contact Stacy Capra at 703-255-0995 or capraparty@verizon.net or visit www.ViennaRelay.org. The Tysons Corner Panera Bakery Café will donate to the Vienna Relay for Life 15% of all purchases made March 8 and April 4 between 5 and 9 p.m.

"Locks of Love" Comes to Vienna



Charlene Forges of I-Catcher Hair Design, 139 Park St., S.E., recently gave a haircut to Town of Vienna Parks Superintendent Al Garlock (photo at left) to kick off Vienna's Locks of Love program.

Locks of Love is a national organization created to help children with hair loss. Town residents are invited to let their hair grow until September 26, when I-Catcher will give free haircuts to those who wish to make a donation to the program, which provides hairpieces to children who suffer from an auto-immune condition

called *alopecia areata*, for which there is no known cause or cure, and other medical conditions that result in hair loss.

Donated hair must be at least 10 inches long (preferably longer) and must be bundled in a ponytail or braid. It must also be free of damage caused by chemical processing. Monetary donations are also welcome and are tax deductible.

Appointments for September 26 may be made now. Call I-Catcher at 703-281-7373. For more information, call Charlene Forges at I-Catcher or Officer Virginia Palmore (who plans to donate her hair) at the Vienna Police Department, 703-255-6396.

Jamestown 2007 Committee Invites Citizen Participation

The Town of Vienna committee to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown, Virginia, continues to explore ideas to celebrate this significant event. While some may wonder, "What does Jamestown have to do with Vienna?" the answer is that Jamestown is a vital part of state and national history. Jamestown is considered "Our Nation's Birthplace," according to committee chairman Paul Snodgrass.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has celebrated the 1607 settlement of Jamestown every fifty years since 1807. Preparations are now underway for the 2007 event throughout Virginia, and 106 "Virginia 2007 Community Committees" have been recognized by the Jamestown 2007 organization, an agency of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. Extensive information is available at www.jamestown2007.org and www.jamestown1607.org.

Locally, the Town of Vienna committee has as its mission a number of legacy projects, which will become a permanent part of our community, and special events to enhance awareness of the Jamestown commemoration process. One of the legacies will be the staging area in the future "Town Green" at the corner of Maple Avenue and Mill Street. One of the special events planned is the planting of a colonial garden on the grounds of the Freeman House, to acknowledge the importance of herbs for medicinal purposes in Colonial Days.

Additionally, the committee is working with Patrick Henry Library to develop a pictorial history of Vienna and its residents. Photographs of people and places are being sought for this collection. Simply bring your pictures to the library for scanning into a computer program. All pictures will be promptly returned to you.

The committee meets regularly for discussion of its progress and to consider new ideas. All interested residents, business people and organization representatives are welcome to attend. For information, call Paul Snodgrass at 703-560-6631 or visit www.va2007-vienna.org.

A Lost Purse or Wallet Can Lead to Identity Theft

If you have lost your purse or wallet in the Town of Vienna, the Police Department wishes to assist you in every way possible. Criminal victimization through personal identity theft sometimes begins with a lost or stolen purse or wallet.

Personal identity theft is the unauthorized use of another person's personal identifying information to: obtain credit, goods, services, money or property; or commit a felony or misdemeanor. Personal identifying information means a person's name, address, telephone number, driver's license number, social security number, place of employment, employee identification number, mother's maiden name, demand deposit account number, savings or checking account number or credit card number.

The Vienna Police Department is concerned with ensuring that you take appropriate steps to decrease your chance of becoming a victim of identity theft. We suggest the following if your purse or wallet is lost:

- Purchase a large notebook and begin by making notations about the date, time, location and other important information regarding the loss of your belongings.
- It is likely that you will need to make several telephone calls to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft. For each call, record the date, time, telephone number, person's name, purpose of call, what was accomplished, what follow-up is needed and other relevant notes. Also, write down any questions you asked and the answers received.
- Keep copies of all letters you write and all forms you submit. Mail everything by certified mail. Keep these records in a safe place. Be consistent and methodical – and take action immediately!
- Contact the three major credit bureaus: TransUnion, Experian, and Equifax. Request that a fraud alert be placed on your file immediately. You will be assigned a reference or confirmation number to use in future communications. Your name and address will be removed from prescreened mailing lists for a length of time specified by each credit bureau. Each credit bureau is different, so follow their instructions explicitly. They may ask you to write a letter and enclose copies of three pieces of identification before they mail your report. Be sure to ask how long the alert will be in effect and how to extend it, if necessary.

EQUIFAX – Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Telephone: 1-800-525-6285 or 1-888-766-0008

EXPERIAN – Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Telephone: 1-800-311-4769 or 1-888-397-3742

TRANSUNION – Business Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Telephone: 1-800-680-7289

Order a copy of your credit report from each of the credit bureaus every three to six months for the first year. After the first year, order copies semi-annually or at least annually. Remember, if whoever stole your identity has not been apprehended and/or your belongings have not been recovered, your identity still remains in their possession and you are subject to future victimization. Or, your imposter may have sold your information to someone else who may attempt to use it at some later date.

- If your ATM or debit card has been lost, report this theft to your bank. Close this account and open a new account number and new password. Do not use your old password. Act quickly to ensure that you are not held liable for any fraudulent funds obtained by your imposter.
- If checks were lost, cancel the accounts immediately. Notify your bank of the number and payee on the last check you wrote. Place "stop payments" on the remaining checks. Ask your bank to notify the check verification company it uses. Here is a list of some of these companies:

National Check Fraud Service: 1-843-571-2143

CrossCheck: 1-800-843-0760

Equifax Check Systems: 1-800-437-5120

International Check Services: 1-800-526-5380

SCAN: 1-800-262-7771

TeleCheck: 1-800-710-9898

Chex Systems: 1-800-428-9623

It may be necessary that YOU contact the major check verification companies. If so, request each company to notify retailers in their database not to accept the lost checks.

- If your driver's license has been lost, apply for a duplicate at a Department of Motor Vehicles office. Identification documents are required to issue a replacement license, such as a certified birth certificate, etc. Contact DMV for a complete list of acceptable documents and specific requirements. Please be aware that photocopies and facsimiles are not adequate proof. Only original documents will be accepted. When a customer is requesting a replacement driver's license because their license has been stolen, this is indicated on the customer's record as the reason for the replacement. The customer would need to contact law enforcement to report the license as stolen. DMV also has a Web site you can visit for information on protecting your identity: <http://www.dmv.state.va.us/webdoc/citizen/drivers/identitytheft.asp>.

- Change the locks on your home and car if your keys were lost. Remember, if someone finds your keys in conjunction with your personal information, they have both your address and access to your residence.

If you have any questions, or if you believe you may be a victim of identity theft, please contact the Vienna Police Department, 703-255-6366, for additional instructions.

March

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
All meetings are held at Vienna Town Hall at 8 p.m. unless noted otherwise		1 Windover Heights Board of Review 7:30 p.m. Business license renewal deadline	2	3	4	5 Drop off used motor oil, antifreeze & batteries at Northside Property Yard, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
6 Trash pickup first collection day, curbside recycling second collection day each week	7 Town Council	8 Mayor's Advisory Committee	9 Planning Commission	10 Town/Business Liaison Committee 7 p.m.	11	12
13	14 Town Council work session	15 2005 motor vehicle decals go on sale	16 Board of Zoning Appeals	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> Board of Architectural Review	18	19
20 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	21 Town Council	22	23 Planning Commission	24 Community Enhancement Commission 7:30 p.m.	25 <i>Good Friday</i>	26
27 <i>Easter</i>	28	29 Transportation Safety Commission	30	31		

2005

This Month in History

from the Vienna Newsletter archives

MARCH 1995 – The Virginia Department of Transportation will hold an open forum on the Cottage Street reconstruction project on March 27. The project includes the reconstruction of the street at its existing width between Moore Avenue and the rear of the Vienna Shopping Center; replacement of curb, gutter and sidewalk; addition of storm sewers; and replacement of water and sanitary sewer lines.

MARCH 1985 – The Vienna Jaycees and the Vienna Elementary School PTA are building the Center Street Playground. This “creative playground” is designed for children of all ages, including the handicapped. Another creative playground is planned for Louise Archer Elementary School.

MARCH 1975 – The Town’s long-awaited curbside newspaper pickup program will begin March 19. The program will continue on a biweekly basis with a series of Town trucks covering the entire town. Trash crews will not pick up refuse that includes newspapers.

MARCH 1965 – In response to the many complaints of speeding in the town and in accordance with recommendations of our Public Safety Committee, the Vienna Town Council recently approved the purchase of a radar control unit for better enforcement of the posted speed limits.

CALL THESE NUMBERS 24 HOURS A DAY:

VIENNA NEWSLINE – 703-255-6333

POLICE INFO LINE – 703-255-6363

TO ORDER A SPECIAL PICKUP – 703-255-5727

Visit the Town's Web site at www.ci.vienna.va.us

Human Services Information Is Just A Phone Call Away

Fairfax County’s Coordinated Services Planning (CSP) provides a link to all public and private human services available to county residents. Coordinators assess individual and family situations, over the telephone or in person, and develop an integrated service plan to connect residents with human services to meet their immediate needs.

Call 703-222-0880 for information on obtaining food, clothing, housing and transportation; care of children, the elderly and the disabled; health care services, including medical, dental, pregnancy and family planning; job training, employment, education, legal assistance and English for speakers of other languages; recreational activities for all ages and those with special needs; and much more. Some services are based on eligibility guidelines and availability.

CSP staff also explore prevention and early intervention strategies with community-based organizations and other Fairfax County service providers to help clients achieve economic independence and social stability.

